DECLASSIFIED 11/12/82

Tuesday on the 25th anniversary of the accession of the Sultan of Morocco to his throne. This is to take place at the Plaza Hotel in New York and is being arranged by the Istiqlal Party. Daridan said he understood radio coverage was to be given to it by the VOA, which would mean that Istiqlal representatives would have their speeches rebroadcast to Morocco.

I telephoned the appropriate people in the Department, and we arranged there should not be American official representation on this occasion, and the VOA would not broadcast any of the proceedings. We have fallen into similar traps several times in the past with unfortunate consequences, although our actions have usually sprung from inadvertence or ignorance and not from premeditation. Since this celebration is for propaganda reasons only, and not directly connected with the Sultan, we are sending the ordinary message of felicitation to that potentate.

Harry Villard came to see me. He describes his life in Tripoli as being fairly grim since, although all the other chief foreign representatives are adequately housed, he and his family are still established in a dilapidated hotel. The FBO has plans to erect a house for them within the next twelve months.

We went tonight to a dinner at the Chinese Embassy in honor of the Chinese Foreign Minister. The food was Occidental, and amongst other wines we had Chateau Chalon, a rare wine one seldom sees either here or abroad.

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